



2022 SOUTHLAND CONFERENCE FOOTBALL WEEKLY RELEASE WEEK 7 • OCTOBER 11, 2022

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2022 SOUTHLAND FOOTBALL STANDINGS

	SOUTHLAND		ALL GAMES					
	W-L	PCT	W-L	PCT	HOME	AWAY	NEU	STK
Northwestern State	2-0	1.000	2-4	.333	2-0	0-3	0-1	L1
Texas A&M-Commerce	1-0	1.000	3-2	.600	2-0	1-2	0-0	W2
UIW	2-1	.667	5-1	.833	3-0	2-1	0-0	W2
Southeastern	1-1	.500	3-3	.500	3-1	0-2	0-0	L1
HCU	1-1	.500	2-3	.400	0-2	2-1	0-0	L1
Nicholls	1-1	.500	1-5	.167	0-1	1-4	0-0	W1
McNeese	0-1	.000	1-4	.200	1-1	0-3	0-0	L1
Lamar	0-3	.000	0-6	.000	0-2	0-4	0-0	L6

! Southland Regular Season Champion. ^ FCS Championship Participant.

THIS WEEK IN THE SOUTHLAND

Saturday, October 15

UIW at Nicholls ^{Non-Conf}

ESPN+

3 p.m.

Nicholls leads series • 5-4

Northwestern State at HCU *

ESPN+

6 p.m.

NSU leads series • 4-1

Texas A&M-Commerce at McNeese *

ESPN 3

7 p.m.

Series tied • 1-1

All Times Central

LAST WEEK IN THE SOUTHLAND

Saturday, October 8

at Eastern Illinois 35, Northwestern State 27

at UIW 56, Lamar 17 *

Texas A&M-Commerce 31, at Southeastern 28 *

Nicholls 19, at HCU 17 *

2022 SOUTHLAND PRESEASON POLL

PI	School (1st)	Total
1.	Southeastern (7)	90
2.	UIW (7)	86
3.	Nicholls (2)	79
4.	McNeese	61
5.	Northwestern State	44
6.	Texas A&M-Commerce	39
7.	Lamar	25
8.	HCU	24

SOUTHLAND FOOTBALL

PRESEASON ALL-SOUTHLAND

FIRST TEAM

Pos.	Name	School	Class
QB	Lindsey Scott Jr.	UIW	Sr.
RB	Collin Guggenheim*	Nicholls	So.
RB	Deonta McMahon*	McNeese	Sr.
TE/HB	Lee NeGrotto*	Nicholls	So.
WR	Taylor Grimes*	UIW	Sr.
WR	K.J. Franklin*	Nicholls	Jr.
WR	Gage Larvadain*	Southeastern	So.
OL	Caron Coleman*	McNeese	Sr.
OL	Nash Jones*	UIW	Jr.
OL	John Allen*	Southeastern	Jr.
OL	Jalen Bell*	Southeastern	Sr.
OL	Evan Roussel*	Nicholls	So.
PK	Gavin Lasseigne*	Nicholls	Jr.
P	Brady Buell*	HCU	Sr.
DL	Perry Ganci*	Nicholls	Jr.
DL	Mason Kinsey*	McNeese	Sr.
DL	Cameron Preston*	UIW	Gr.
DL	Garrett Crawford*	Southeastern	Jr.
DL	Accord Green*	McNeese	Sr.
LB	Kelechi Anyalebechi*	UIW	Gr.
LB	Kordell Williams*	McNeese	R-Sr.
DB	Zy Alexander*	Southeastern	So.
DB	Kaleb Culp*	UIW	Jr.
DB	Shemar Bartholomew*	Northwestern State	Sr.
DB	Donniel Ward-McGee*	Southeastern	Sr.
DB	PJ Herrington	Northwestern State	Sr.
KR	Gage Larvadain*	Southeastern	So.
PR	Mason Pierce*	McNeese	R-So.

SECOND TEAM

Pos.	Name	School	Class
QB	Kohen Granier	Nicholls	Sr.
RB	Taron Jones*	Southeastern	Sr.
RB	Scooter Adams	Northwestern State	R-Jr.
TE/HB	Roger McCuller	UIW	Gr.
WR	Darion Chafin	UIW	Gr.
WR	Mason Pierce	McNeese	R-So.
WR	CJ Turner	Southeastern	R-Sr.
OL	Mark Barthelemy	Nicholls	Sr.
OL	Reid Francis	UIW	Sr.
OL	Caleb Johnson	UIW	Gr.
OL	Calvin Barkat	McNeese	Sr.
OL	Brennan Lanclos	Southeastern	R-Jr.
PK	Carson Mohr	UIW	Sr.
P	Keven Nguyen*	UIW	Gr.
DL	Isaiah Longino	Northwestern State	Sr.
DL	Jomard Valsin	Northwestern State	Sr.
DL	Bryce Cage	Southeastern	So.
LB	Rodney Dansby*	HCU	So.
LB	Isaiah Paul*	UIW	R-Jr.
LB	Hayden Shaheen*	Nicholls	So.
LB	Brennan Young	HCU	Sr.
DB	Elliott Davison	UIW	Jr.
DB	Jordan Jackson	Nicholls	Jr.
DB	Isaiah Cash	HCU	So.
DB	Brandon Richard	UIW	Sr.
DB	Coi Miller	HCU	Sr.
KR	Ce'Cori Tolds	UIW	Gr.
PR	Gage Larvadain	Southeastern	So.

* Automatic selection; returning all-conference player

FOOTBALL HEAD COACHES



HCU

HEAD COACH.....Vic Shealy
Overall:45-83-1 (13 Seasons)
School:18-69 (9 Seasons)
SLC at School:7-53 (8 Seasons)



UIW

HEAD COACH.....G.J. Kinne
Overall:5-1 (1st Season)
School:5-1 (1st Season)
SLC at School:2-1 (1st Season)



LAMAR

HEAD COACH.....Blane Morgan
Overall:3-19 (3 Seasons)
School:3-19 (3 Seasons)
SLC at School:2-7 (2 Seasons)



MCNEESE

HEAD COACH.....Gary Goff
Overall:61-57 (11 Seasons)
School:1-4 (1st Season)
SLC at School:0-1 (1st Season)



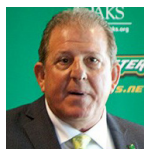
NICHOLLS

HEAD COACH.....Tim Rebowe
Overall:45-40 (8 Seasons)
School:45-40 (8 Seasons)
SLC at School:38-23 (8 Seasons)



NORTHWESTERN STATE

HEAD COACH.....Brad Laird
Overall:14-32 (5 Seasons)
School:14-32 (5 Seasons)
SLC at School:13-21 (5 Seasons)



SOUTHEASTERN

HEAD COACH.....Frank Scelfo
Overall:28-22 (5 Seasons)
School:28-22 (5 Seasons)
SLC at School:21-13 (5 Seasons)



TEXAS A&M-COMMERCE

HEAD COACH.....David Bailiff
Overall:99-104 (17 Seasons)
School:21-9 (3 Seasons)
SLC at School:1-0 (1st Season)

FOOTBALL CONTACTS

HCU

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TEXAS A&M-COMMERCE

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SOUTHLAND FOOTBALL

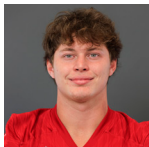
2022 SOUTHLAND PLAYERS OF THE WEEK



OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Lindsey Scott, Jr. • QB • UIW

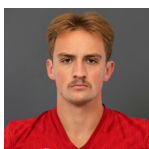
Scott was dominant in the Cardinals' 56-17 win over Lamar, leading UIW to touchdowns on all eight drives of the first half. In just one half of action, Scott completed 23-of-26 passes for 401 yards and seven touchdowns, and also recorded five carries for 29 yards. The seven touchdowns ties Cameron Ward for the school record, ties the second-most in Southland history for a single game, is the most by an FCS player this season, and ties the FCS record for touchdown passes in a half. His passer efficiency rating of 306.862 in the game is also the highest single-game rating by an FCS passer this year.



DEFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Alex Villavaso • LB • Nicholls

Villavaso recorded two sacks to help Nicholls' defensive efforts in the Colonels' 19-17 win at HCU. His first sack in the opening quarter forced an HCU fumble and set up a long Nicholls drive.



SPECIAL TEAMS PLAYER OF THE WEEK

Gavin Lasseigne • K • Nicholls

Lasseigne's leg was instrumental on Saturday, as he scored 13 points in the Colonels' 19-17 win at HCU. He made 4-of-5 field goals, converting from 27, 21, 52, and 43 yards, and also made his only PAT attempt. The 52-yarder was a career long and the fifth-longest field goal by an FCS kicker this season. The 43-yarder came as the clock hit zeroes, giving the Colonels the victory after HCU took the lead with less than a minute to play.

SOUTHLAND VS. NONCONFERENCE

FCS 5-12

A-SUN 0-1

Jacksonville State 0-1

BIG SKY 1-3

Montana 0-1

Montana State 0-1

Northern Colorado 1-1

MISSOURI VALLEY FOOTBALL CONF. ... 1-0

Southern Illinois 1-0

NORTHEAST 1-0

Central Connecticut State 1-0

OHIO VALLEY 1-4

Eastern Illinois 0-1

Lindenwood 0-1

Murray State 1-0

SEMO 0-1

Tennessee-Martin 0-0

Tennessee State 0-0

Tennessee Tech 0-1

SWAC 1-2

Alcorn State 0-1

Grambling 0-1

Prairie View A&M 1-0

WAC 0-2

Abilene Christian 0-1

Sam Houston 0-1

Tarleton 0-0

FBS 1-8

AMERICAN 0-1

SMU 0-1

CONFERENCE USA 0-2

FAU 0-1

Rice 0-1

MOUNTAIN WEST 1-0

Nevada 1-0

SUN BELT 0-5

Louisiana 0-1

Louisiana-Monroe 0-1

South Alabama 0-1

Southern Miss 0-1

Texas State 0-1

INDEPENDENT 0-0

New Mexico State 0-0

DIVISION II 1-0

Mississippi College 1-0

NAIA 0-0

Faulkner 0-0

OTHER 2-0

Lincoln (Calif.) 1-0

North American 1-0

OFFENSIVE PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Sept. 5 Ismail Mahdi RB HCU

Sept. 12 Darion Chafin WR UIW

Sept. 19 Cephus Johnson III QB Southeastern

Lindsey Scott, Jr. QB UIW

Sept. 26 CJ Turner WR Southeastern

Oct. 3 Javon Antonio WR Northwestern State

Oct. 10 Lindsey Scott, Jr. (2) QB UIW

Oct. 17

Oct. 24

Oct. 31

Nov. 7

Nov. 14

Nov. 21

DEFENSIVE PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Sept. 5 Jalyx Hunt LB HCU

Sept. 12 Chris Whittaker DL UIW

Sept. 19 Jack Henderson DB Southeastern

Sept. 26 Donte' Daniels LB Southeastern

Oct. 3 Rodney Dansby LB HCU

Oct. 10 Alex Villavaso LB Nicholls

Oct. 17

Oct. 24

Oct. 31

Nov. 7

Nov. 14

Nov. 21

SPECIAL TEAMS PLAYERS OF THE WEEK

Sept. 5 Austin Dunlap P Southeastern

Sept. 12 Chris Esqueda K Lamar

Sept. 19 Jack McCarthy DL Lamar

Sept. 26 Riley Callaghan K Southeastern

Oct. 3 Damashja Harris RS Lamar

Oct. 10 Gavin Lasseigne K Nicholls

Oct. 17

Oct. 24

Oct. 31

Nov. 7

Nov. 14

Nov. 21

STATS PERFORM FCS POLL

OCT. 10

Rank	Team	Rec	Pts	Prev
1.	North Dakota State (41)	5-1	1,333	1
2.	South Dakota State (7)	5-1	1,285	2
3.	Montana (7)	5-0	1,247	3
4.	Montana State	5-1	1,166	4
5.	Sacramento State	5-0	1,153	5
6.	Weber State	5-0	1,069	7
7.	Holy Cross	6-0	935	9
8.	UIW	5-1	915	10
	Jackson State	5-0	915	8
10.	Chattanooga	4-1	812	11
11.	William & Mary	5-1	758	16
12.	Mercer	5-1	734	12
13.	Delaware	5-1	716	6
14.	Elon	5-1	627	14
15.	Samford	5-1	613	13
16.	Southern Illinois	4-2	557	17
17.	Villanova	3-2	440	15
18.	Southeast Missouri	5-1	414	21
19.	UT Martin	4-2	413	18
20.	North Dakota	4-2	363	22
21.	Richmond	3-2	205	23
22.	Fordham	5-1	178	NR
23.	Eastern Kentucky	3-2	171	25
24.	Austin Peay	4-2	75	NR
25.	Southeastern	3-3	67	19
	Rhode Island	3-2	67	NR

Dropped Out: Missouri State (20), Eastern Washington (24)

Others Receiving Votes (schools listed on two or more ballots): New Hampshire 66, Idaho 48, Furman 41, Missouri State 39, Stephen F. Austin 31, Monmouth 28, Illinois State 15, Campbell 13, Eastern Washington 11, Princeton 8, North Carolina Central 5, Penn 4, Abilene Christian 3.

AFCA COACHES POLL

OCT. 10

Rank	Team	Rec	Pts	Prev
1.	North Dakota St. (23)	5-1	645	1
2.	Montana (3)	5-0	623	2
3.	South Dakota St.	5-1	598	3
4.	Montana St.	5-1	552	5
5.	Sacramento St.	5-0	546	4
6.	Weber St.	5-0	512	7
7.	Jackson St.	5-0	470	8
8.	Holy Cross	6-0	440	10
9.	Chattanooga	4-1	412	9
10.	UIW	5-1	406	11
11.	Mercer	5-1	382	12
12.	Delaware	5-1	352	6
13.	William & Mary	5-1	322	17
14.	UT Martin	4-2	302	14
15.	Samford	5-1	285	15
16.	Villanova	3-2	268	13
17.	Fordham	5-1	240	16
18.	Elon	5-1	233	18
19.	Southern Illinois	4-2	177	24
20.	Stephen F. Austin	3-3	143	22
21.	Southeast Missouri St.	5-1	133	25
22.	Rhode Island	3-2	131	23
23.	Princeton	4-0	57	NR
24.	Austin Peay	4-2	34	NR
25.	Richmond	3-2	24	NR

Dropped Out: Missouri St. (19), Southeastern (20), Eastern Washington (21)

Others Receiving Votes: Eastern Kentucky, 19; North Dakota, 19; North Carolina Central, 17; Pennsylvania, 16; Tarleton, 16; Furman, 15; Monmouth (N.J.), 12; New Hampshire, 9; Southeastern, 9; Idaho, 8; Florida A&M, 6; Eastern Washington, 5; Abilene Christian, 4; Davidson, 4; Missouri St., 2; St. Thomas (Minn.), 1; Stetson, 1.

SOUTHLAND FOOTBALL



HCU

2-3, 1-1 Southland

SEPTEMBER

3at Northern Colorado W46-34
10 ... LINDENWOOD L20-21
17OPEN
24at Texas State L0-34

OCTOBER

1at Lamar * W37-34
8 NICHOLLS * L17-19
15 ... NORTHWESTERN STATE * 6 p.m.
22at Texas A&M-Commerce * 2 p.m.
29 ... UT MARTIN 2 p.m.

NOVEMBER

5at UIW * 2 p.m.
12 ... McNEESE * 2 p.m.
19at Tarleton 2 p.m.



UIW

5-1, 2-1 Southland

SEPTEMBER

3 No. 9/9 SOUTHERN ILLINOIS W64-29
10at Nevada W55-41
17at Prairie View A&M W31-14
24at Southeastern * L35-41

OCTOBER

1 McNEESE* W48-20
8 LAMAR * W56-17
15at Nicholls * 3 p.m.
22 ... FAULKNER 2 p.m.
29at Texas A&M-Commerce * 2 p.m.

NOVEMBER

5 HCU * 2 p.m.
12OPEN
19at Northwestern State * 1 p.m.



LAMAR

0-6, 0-3 Southland

SEPTEMBER

1at Abilene Christian (Thur.) L14-28
10at SMU L16-45
17 ... NORTHWESTERN COLORADO L14-21
24at Northwestern State * L27-35

OCTOBER

1 HCU * L34-37
8at UIW * L17-56
15OPEN
22 ... PRAIRIE VIEW A&M 4 p.m.
29 ... NICHOLLS * 3 p.m.

NOVEMBER

5 SOUTHEASTERN * 3 p.m.
12at New Mexico State 3 p.m.
19at McNeese * 7 p.m.



McNEESE

1-4, 0-1 Southland

SEPTEMBER

3at No. 4/4 Montana State L17-40
10at Rice L10-52
17 ... ALCORN STATE L19-30
24 ... MISSISSIPPI COLLEGE W32-17

OCTOBER

1at UIW * L20-48
8OPEN
15 ... TEXAS A&M-COMMERCE * 7 p.m.
22at Nicholls * 3 p.m.
29 ... SOUTHEASTERN * 7 p.m.

NOVEMBER

5 EASTERN ILLINOIS 7 p.m.
19at HCU * 2 p.m.
19 ... LAMAR * 7 p.m.



NICHOLLS

1-5, 1-1 Southland

SEPTEMBER

3at South Alabama L7-48
10at Louisiana-Monroe L7-35
17at SEMO L16-42
24 ... JACKSONVILLE STATE L21-52

OCTOBER

1at Northwestern State * L33-36
8at HCU * W19-17
15 ... UIW Non-Conf 3 p.m.
22 ... McNEESE * 3 p.m.
29at Lamar * 3 p.m.

NOVEMBER

5OPEN
12 ... TEXAS A&M-COMMERCE * 3 p.m.
17 ... SOUTHEASTERN * (Thur.) 6 p.m.



NORTHWESTERN STATE

2-4, 2-0 Southland

SEPTEMBER

3at No. 2/2 Montana L0-47
10vs. Grambling (at Shreveport) L21-47
17at Southern Mississippi L10-64
24 ... LAMAR * W35-27

OCTOBER

1 NICHOLLS * W36-33
8at Eastern Illinois L27-35
15at HCU * 6 p.m.
22 ... SEMO 1 p.m.
29OPEN

NOVEMBER

5at Texas A&M-Commerce * 2 p.m.
12at Southeastern * 6 p.m.
19 ... UIW * 1 p.m.



SOUTHEASTERN

3-3, 1-1 Southland

SEPTEMBER

3at Louisiana L7-24
10at FAU L9-42
17 ... CENTRAL CONNECTICUT STATE W70-6
24 ... No. 4/4 UIW * W41-35

OCTOBER

1 MURRAY STATE W48-14
8 TEXAS A&M-COMMERCE * L28-31
15OPEN
22at Jacksonville State 1 p.m.
29at McNeese * 7 p.m.

NOVEMBER

5at Lamar * 3 p.m.
12 ... NORTHWESTERN STATE * 6 p.m.
17at Nicholls * (Thur.) 6 p.m.



TEXAS A&M-COMMERCE

3-2, 1-0 Southland

SEPTEMBER

1 LINCOLN (Calif.) (Thur.) W52-7
10at Tennessee Tech L25-26
17at Sam Houston L17-27
24 ... NORTH AMERICAN W63-3

OCTOBER

1OPEN
8at Southeastern * W31-28
15at McNeese * 7 p.m.
22 ... HCU * 2 p.m.
29 ... UIW * 2 p.m.

NOVEMBER

5 NORTHWESTERN STATE * 2 p.m.
12at Nicholls * 3 p.m.
19 ... TENNESSEE STATE 2 p.m.



The Southland Conference will host the Division I Football Championship Game for the 13th consecutive season at Toyota Stadium in Frisco, Texas, on **SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2023**

SOUTHLAND FOOTBALL

NATIONAL PRESEASON HONORS

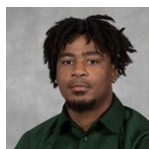
2022 PRESEASON ALL-AMERICANS



Taylor Grimes

UIW • WR • 5-11, 190, Sr.

Stats Perform • First Team
HERO Sports • First Team
Athlon Sports • First Team



Ferlando Jordan

Southeastern • DB • 6-0, 180, R-Sr.

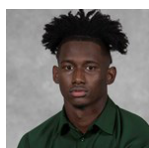
Stats Perform • First Team
HERO Sports • Second Team



Kelechi Anyalebechi

UIW • LB • 6-0, 240, Gr.

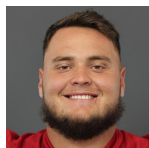
Stats Perform • Second Team
HERO Sports • Third Team



Zy Alexander

Southeastern • DB • 6-3, 185, Soph.

Stats Perform • Second Team



Evan Roussel

Nicholls • OL • 6-2, 290, Soph.

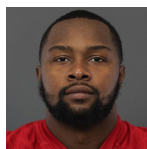
Stats Perform • Third Team

WALTER PAYTON AWARD WATCH LIST



Lindsey Scott, Jr.

UIW • QB • 5-11, 220, Sr.



Julien Gums

Nicholls • RB • 5-10, 230, Sr.



Taylor Grimes

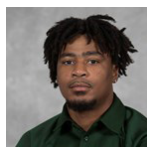
UIW • WR • 5-11, 190, Sr.

BUCK BUCHANAN AWARD WATCH LIST



Kelechi Anyalebechi

UIW • LB • 6-0, 240, Gr.



Ferlando Jordan

Southeastern • DB • 6-0, 180, R-Sr.

NEWS & NOTES

THREE GAMES ON WEEK SEVEN SCHEDULE

• Two conference matchups and a non-league game between conference schools highlight a light schedule this week before six games next week.

UIW AT NICHOLLS • 3 p.m. • ESPN+

• The 10th meeting between these schools will be a strange sort of homecoming for Lindsey Scott, who played at Nicholls and graduated before his graduate transfer to San Antonio.
• Nicholls holds a 5-4 all-time lead in the series, though UIW won both matchups in the fall 2021 season.
• The Colonels have a 3-2 record in the series in Thibodaux.
• This game is designated as a non-conference game, as the matchup was scheduled prior to UIW announcing it would remain in the Southland.

NORTHWESTERN STATE AT HCU • 6 p.m. • ESPN+

• The Demons will look for their best conference start in 20 years, trekking to Husky Stadium, where HCU has had two tough losses on special teams plays to end each game.

• NSU has a 4-1 lead in the all-time series, and took both matchups in the fall of 2021.

• The Demons are 2-1 in Houston, with HCU's last home win coming in 2019.

TEXAS A&M-COMMERCE AT MCNEESE • 7 p.m. • ESPN3

• The Cowboys and Lions meet for the first time in 51 years this weekend, with McNeese coming off of its open week in the schedule.
• McNeese and then-East Texas State met for a home-and-home in 1970 and 1971, with each team winning at home.
• The Cowboys ran away with a 47-3 win in Lake Charles in 1971.

NEWS & NOTES (CONTINUED)

UIW's SCOTT NAMED FEDEX GROUND NATIONAL OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK



• UIW quarterback Lindsey Scott, Jr. – a graduate student from Zachary, La. – had a first half for the FCS ages against Lamar, completing 23 of 26 (88.5 percent) pass attempts for 401 yards and seven touchdowns. The TD passes tied the FCS record for one half and matched the

Cardinals' mark for a game, and his passing efficiency (306.9) was the FCS seasonal high. He did not play in the second half.

NICHOLLS' LASSEIGNE NAMED FEDEX GROUND NATIONAL OFFENSIVE PLAYER OF THE WEEK



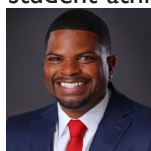
• Nicholls kicker Gavin Lasseigne – a junior from Raceland, La. – kicked a career-high four field goals, including a 43-yarder as time expired to lift Nicholls past Houston Christian 19-17 for its first victory of the season. His career-long 52-yard field goal

earlier in the fourth quarter gave the Colonels a 16-14 lead, but HCU went back in front on a field goal with 43 seconds left. Lasseigne accounted for 13 of the Colonels' 19 points in the Southland matchup.

SOUTHLAND CONFERENCE PARTNERS WITH THRIVE GLOBAL TO IMPROVE STUDENT-ATHLETE MENTAL HEALTH



• As part of its ongoing commitment to enhancing the student-athlete experience, the Southland Conference announced this week a partnership with Thrive Global to address the unique mental health challenges arising from the rigors of modern-day athletic competition. The conference regards the partnership as an example of its desire to use the best tools available when it comes to student-athlete support.



Grant • *"Because the challenges of athletic competition can intensify the social stresses that have multiplied for collegiate student-athletes over the past several years, we owe our athletes the mental health support they need to excel," said Commissioner Chris Grant. "In Arianna Huffington's Thrive Global, we have found a partner who not only understands the student-athlete experience, but also delivers cutting edge technology that adapts to the needs of each individual student. I sincerely hope that all Southland athletes will take advantage of this resource."*

• In forging this partnership, the Southland is breaking new ground as the first athletic conference to partner with Thrive Global, and to take Thrive and SHRM's #MentalHealthPledge. In honor of World Mental Health

Day, the partnership will kick off with a Mental Health Webinar on Wednesday, October 12 featuring Thrive's Chief Training Officer, Joey Hubbard. In addition, the Thrive behavior change platform will be made available by the Thrive Global Foundation to all Southland student-athletes, coaching staff, administrators, and conference staff.

2023 FCS CHAMPIONSHIP GAME MOVES TO ABC AND SUNDAY, JANUARY 8

• The NCAA and ESPN announced that the NCAA Division I FCS Championship will move to Sunday in 2023, airing live on ABC on January 8 at 1 p.m. CST. from Toyota Stadium in Frisco.

• The Southland Conference will host the game in Frisco for the 13th consecutive season.

• FCS Championship tickets will go on sale to the public Friday, Sept. 16, at 11 a.m. ET at [NCAA.com/FCS](https://www.ncaa.com/fcs).

UIW CARDINALS' SOARING OFFENSE



• The UIW Cardinals have remained near the top of the national scoring charts after scoring touchdowns on the first eight drives of the game en route to a 56-17 win over Lamar.

• This puts the Cardinals at 289 total points through five games for an average of 48.2 points. This is a jump of 0.7 points per game from last week.

• Fordham's average fell by 2.0 points, and the gap between the two now stands at 1.6 points per game. Fordham hosts 0-5 Stony Brook this week.

• The Southland record book notes the most total points scored in a season, with Sam Houston scoring 616 points in 15 games in 2015 - an average of 41.1 points per game.

Rk.	School	GP	Pts.	Pts/Gm
1	Fordham	6	299	49.8
2	UIW	6	289	48.2
3	Sacramento St.	5	238	47.6
4	Jackson St.	5	216	43.2
5	Southern U.	5	207	41.4
6	Montana St.	6	247	41.2
7	Monmouth	6	237	39.5
8	Montana	5	195	39.0
9	Mercer	6	232	38.7
10	N.C. Central	5	191	38.2

• The Cardinals also rank third nationally in total offensive yards per game.

Rk.	School	GP	Total Yds	Yds/Gm
1	Fordham	6	3,756	626.0
2	UIW	6	3,318	553.0
3	Sacramento St.	5	2,595	519.0
4	Jackson St.	5	2,576	515.2
5	Western Carolina	6	2,998	499.7
6	Monmouth	6	2,954	492.3
7	UT Martin	6	2,911	485.2
8	Montana St.	6	2,869	478.2
9	Davidson	6	2,819	469.8
10	Holy Cross	6	2,757	459.5

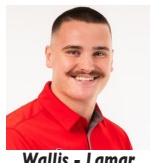
SOUTHLAND FOOTBALL

NEWS & NOTES (CONTINUED)

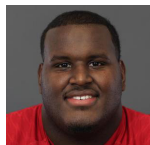
FIVE SOUTHLAND SCHOLAR-ATHLETES RECOGNIZED AS CAMPBELL TROPHY SEMIFINALISTS



Young - HCU



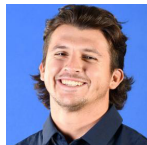
Wallis - Lamar



Thurmond - Nicholls



Fletcher - NSU



Noble - TAMUC

• The National Football Foundation & College Hall of Fame (NFF) announced that five scholar-athletes from the Southland Conference are among the 156 semifinalists for the 2022 William V. Campbell Trophy®, college football's premier scholar-athlete award.

• Representing the Southland on the semifinalist list are HCU's Brennan Young, Lamar's Luke Wallis, Nicholls' Glen Thurmond, Northwestern State's Kaleb Fletcher, and Texas A&M-Commerce's Michael Noble.

• The NFF will announce 12-14 finalists on Oct. 26, and each of them will receive an \$18,000 postgraduate scholarship as a member of the 2022 NFF National Scholar-Athlete Class Presented by Fidelity Investments. The finalists will travel to Bellagio Resort & Casino in Las Vegas for the 64th NFF Annual Awards Dinner Presented by Las Vegas on Dec. 6, where their accomplishments will be highlighted in front of one of the most powerful audiences in all of sports.

CARDINAL AIRLINES AT YOUR SERVICE...

- The Southland features one of the nation's top passing offenses in UIW (ranked 2nd in yards per game).
- UIW leads the nation in passing efficiency (208.40).
- Northwestern State moved up three spots to 11th nationally in passing yardage with a 285.0 yards per game average.

Rk.	School	GP	C-A-I	Yds	TDs	YPG
1	Fordham	6	159-236-4	2,652	30	442.0
2...	UIW	6	148-204-3	2,310	27	385.0
3	Jackson St.	5	156-216-2	1,791	18	358.2
4	Cal Poly	5	130-227-4	1,672	12	334.4
5	Western Carolina	6	159-231-13	1,931	18	321.8
6	Eastern Ky.	5	130-189-5	1,571	12	314.2
7	Richmond	5	170-221-1	1,539	15	307.8
8	Stetson	5	129-210-7	1,524	8	304.8
9	Bryant	6	144-229-8	1,772	14	295.3
10	UT Martin	6	133-218-2	1,759	11	293.2
11.	Northwestern St.	6	164-285-9	1,710	11	285.0

...PILOTED BY SCOTT



Scott, Jr.

- UIW quarterback Lindsey Scott, Jr., ranks second in the nation in passing yards per game.
- Scott also leads the nation in passing efficiency (213.0), point responsibility (33.0 per game) and ranks in the top ten in passing touchdowns and yards per completion.

Rk.	Player	School	GP	C-A-I	TD	Yds	YPG
1	Tim DeMorat	Fordham	6	159-236-4	30	2,652	442.0
2....	Lindsey Scott	UIW	6	143-193-2	27	2,179	363.2
3	Shedeur Sanders	Jackson St.	5	151-208-2	17	1,726	345.2
4	Parker McKinney	Eastern Ky.	5	130-189-5	12	1,571	314.2
5	Reece Udinski	Richmond	5	167-217-1	13	1,501	300.2
6	Brady Meitz	Stetson	5	123-202-7	8	1,490	298.0
7	Dresser Winn	UT Martin	6	131-208-2	11	1,737	289.5
8	Paxton DeLaurent	SEMO	6	132-211-3	14	1,693	282.2
9	Matthew McKay	Elon	6	109-176-2	14	1,682	280.3
10	Nolan Henderson	Delaware	6	146-221-4	18	1,660	276.7

DEMONS ON FIRE!



- After its comeback 36-33 victory over Nicholls on October 1, Northwestern State is 2-0 to start Southland play for the first time since 2005.
- NSU's next opportunity for a Southland win is Saturday, when the Demons travel to Houston Christian.
- Northwestern State's last 3-0 conference start was in 2002.

FINDING PAYDIRT



Armstrong

- Texas A&M-Commerce wide receiver Andrew Armstrong had two touchdown receptions in the Lions' upset win over Southeastern last week.
- This brings his total to nine receiving touchdowns, which would lead the country, except...
- ...A&M-Commerce is ineligible to be listed in the NCAA statistical leaderboards as a reclassifying institution.
- The Lions' stats will still count towards any applicable Southland records.
- This puts UIW wide receiver Taylor Grimes as the official national leader at this point in the season with eight touchdowns, tied with Mercer's Devron Harper and Fotis Kokosioulis.
- The Southland record for receiving touchdowns in a season is 18, set by SFA's Dominique Edson in 2008 and Sam Houston's Jonathon Cooper in 2018.

BIG BOOTS



Dunlap

- Southeastern's Austin Dunlap ranks eighth in the nation in punting average.
- His 44.3 yard punting average would rank eighth in the Southland single season record and would be the highest average by a Lion in that program's time in the Southland.

Rk.	Player	School	GP	Punts	Yds	Avg
1	Jake Gerardi	Southern Utah	6	32	1,576	49.2
2	Tyler Larco	UT Martin	6	24	1,115	46.5
3	Trey Turk	Mercer	6	23	1,053	45.8
4	Tyler Pastula	UAlbany	5	21	950	45.2
5	Grant Burkett	Missouri St.	6	28	1,258	44.9
6	David Gelb	Charleston So.	5	32	1,422	44.4
7	Max Quick	SFA	5	23	1,020	44.3
8....	Austin Dunlap	Southeastern	6	30	1,329	44.3
9	Riley Williams	Towson	6	29	1,282	44.2
10	Patrick Rohrbach	Montana	5	22	971	44.1

SOUTHLAND FOOTBALL

NEWS & NOTES (CONTINUED)

TACKLING MACHINES

- Three Southland players ranks in the top five nationally in total tackles per game.
- HCU's Rodney Dansby ranks third nationally with 11.6 stops per contest.
- HCU's Brennan Young and McNeese's Kordell Williams rank fifth nationally at 10.8 stops per game.
- UIW's Chris Whittaker still ranks fourth nationally in sacks with 1.25 per game.

SOUTHLAND HAS SEVEN IN THE LEAGUE ON OPENING DAY



Click or Scan

- A total of seven Southland-related players were on active NFL rosters for opening week contests.
- This includes players from current Southland institutions, as well as players who played primarily in the Southland, but finished their careers elsewhere, or players whose institutions left the conference.

*John Franklin-Myers (Stephen F. Austin) - New York Jets
Kader Kohou (Texas A&M-Commerce) - Miami Dolphins
Zyon McCollum (Sam Houston) - Tampa Bay Buccaneers
George Odum (Central Arkansas) - San Francisco 49ers
Robert Rochell (Central Arkansas) - Los Angeles Rams
Tremont Smith (Central Arkansas) - Houston Texans
Bailey Zappe (HCU) - New England Patriots*

UIW PICKS UP FBS VICTORY FOR SECOND STRAIGHT SEASON (WEEK 2)



Click or Scan

- UIW earned a 55-41 win over Nevada for the Southland's first win over an FBS opponent this season.
- Not counting the 2020-21 CoVID season (where not all conferences and divisions played at the same time), the Southland has had a win over an FBS team in the last four seasons.
- This is UIW's second consecutive season with a win over an FBS team after defeating Texas State 42-34 in 2021.
- The victory is the Southland's 56th win over an FBS/I-A team since the divisions split in 1978, according to NCAA.com's tracker.

WHERE'S THE STATS

- Now that conference play has begun for all Southland teams, the statistical report pages have ballooned to nearly 60 pages.
- In an effort to save printing resources at our member institutions, these reports will now be emailed as a separate file, and will also be available at www.Southland.org/FBPDF.

SUCCESS AT THE FIRST BITE OF THE APPLE

- The Texas A&M-Commerce Lions found a rare bite of success last week, defeating Southeastern 31-28 in Hammond in TAMUC's first-ever Southland game.
- The last teams to win their first Southland games come with caveats, as Abilene Christian's 21-0 win on Sept. 20, 2014, and Lamar's 48-38 win over Southeastern on Oct. 1, 2011 were those schools' first win in that particular stint in the Southland. Both ACU and Lamar were charter members of the Southland, who left and then returned.
- The last true "first game win" in the Southland was Jacksonville State on September 13, 1997, when the Gamecocks picked up a 28-21 road win at Sam Houston. It was JSU's only win in a 1-10 season.
- Troy beat Nicholls 37-7 at home on Sept. 21, 1996 in the Trojans' first Southland game.
- HOWEVER, those two schools were football-only members.
- To find the last full membership Southland football team to win its first game in league play, you have to go all the way back to Sept. 12, 1987, when Northwestern State beat McNeese 39-3.
- Even stranger, Sam Houston also played and won its first Southland football game in 1987, but against a non-league member... SHSU's games against Texas Southern and Western Illinois were counted as conference games that season to have a consistent number of games played. SHSU beat Texas Southern 45-7 on Oct. 3, 1987.